



May 2, 2012

**VIA ECFS**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Presentation: WC Docket No. 11-42; WC Docket No. 03-109;  
CC Docket No. 96-45; WC Docket No. 12-23; MB Docket No. 09-182; MB Docket  
No. 07-294.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, May 1, 2012, Michael Scurato, Policy Counsel, Jeff Penichet, Member of the Board, and Alex Nogales, President & CEO of the National Hispanic Media Coalition ("NHMC") met with Erin McGrath, Legal Advisor to Commissioner McDowell and Commissioner McDowell to discuss a variety of topics pertaining to the above referenced dockets.

Specifically, NHMC discussed the following with Commissioner McDowell and his staff:

- Mr. Nogales and Mr. Scurato reiterated points raised in NHMC's comments in the 2010 Quadrennial Regulatory Review of media ownership rules. Specifically, Mr. Scurato discussed the state of media ownership in the Brownsville-McAllen-Harlingen-Weslaco media market as an example of the deficiencies of broadcast ownership by people of color. Mr. Scurato urged Commissioner McDowell not to move forward with any changes to the current media ownership rules without first having the Commission collect and analyze data on ownership by women and people of color to satisfy the mandate of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in *Prometheus Radio Project v. FCC* (*Prometheus II*).
- Mr. Nogales and Mr. Scurato urged Commissioner McDowell to consider certain proposals presented by NHMC in the recent Lifeline Reform and Modernization Further Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking. Specifically, Mr. Scurato asked the Commissioner to support the use of Universal Service funding to cover certain labor and training costs for staff of school and library computer centers as a key component of any digital literacy initiative. Schools and libraries already offer a variety of useful digital literacy programs and would be able to better meet community demands with these additional funds.

- Mr. Scurato discussed the Commission's options for where to house the proposed digital literacy initiative. Mr. Scurato expressed NHMC's apprehension with housing any such proposals in the Lifeline program as, based on NHMC's reading of the statute, the money would then be limited to Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs). Mr. Scurato stated NHMC's preference that the program be housed in E-Rate, provided that the hard cap of the schools and libraries program can be raised by the amount of additional funding set aside for the initiative, so that any funds can flow directly to the schools and libraries that need it the most. Mr. Scurato also urged that this proposed program not be withheld from schools that currently do not offer after-school hours for the community or libraries that already offer formal digital literacy training.

I submit this letter today pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b). Please contact me should you have any questions regarding this submission.

Respectfully submitted,



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National Hispanic Media Coalition  
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cc: Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Erin McGrath